

1922

# Spoon River

Percy Grainger

Follow this and additional works at: <http://digitalcommons.conncoll.edu/sheetmusic>

---

## Recommended Citation

Grainger, Percy, "Spoon River" (1922). *Historic Sheet Music Collection*. Paper 1293.  
<http://digitalcommons.conncoll.edu/sheetmusic/1293>

This Score is brought to you for free and open access by the Greer Music Library at Digital Commons @ Connecticut College. It has been accepted for inclusion in Historic Sheet Music Collection by an authorized administrator of Digital Commons @ Connecticut College. For more information, please contact [bpancier@conncoll.edu](mailto:bpancier@conncoll.edu).

The views expressed in this paper are solely those of the author.



GRAINGER

AMERICAN  
FOLK-MUSIC  
SETTINGS

Nº 1

“SPOON RIVER”

Piano Solo

Price, 65 cents, net  
T

G. SCHIRMER, INC., NEW YORK



# "SPOON RIVER"

## American Folk-dance

The fiddle tune below was sent me by Capt. Charles H. Robinson in the summer of 1915, at my request, after he had written me in regard to *Spoon River Anthology* that he had heard the old fiddlers play this tune when he lived in Stark County, Illinois, in 1857.

*Edgar Lee Masters*

February 11th, 1922.

# "Spoon River"

## Fiddle tune

as heard in 1857 at a dance at Bradford, Illinois,  
by Capt. Charles H. Robinson

The musical notation is written on five staves in treble clef, 4/4 time. The first three staves form the main melody. The fourth staff is marked "2nd time octave higher" and contains a repeat sign. The fifth staff contains two endings: the first ending is marked "1st time" and leads back to the start, while the second ending is marked "2nd time" and leads to the "End" of the piece. The notation includes various note values, rests, and repeat signs.



## AMERICAN FOLK-MUSIC SETTINGS

## Nr. 1. "SPOON RIVER"

*(For Edgar Lee Masters, poet of pioneers)*

American folk-dance, heard played by a fiddler at a country dance at Bradford, Illinois, in 1857, by Capt. Charles H. Robinson

and set for piano by

PERCY ALDRIDGE GRAINGER

Set, March 10, 1919,  
New York City, and  
Jan. 29-30, 1922,  
White Plains, N.Y.

Sturdily, not too fast, with "pioneer"  
persistence. ♩ = about 168

Piano

*p detached*

*pp*  
(no pedal except where marked)

small hands *pp*

Ped. \*

Ped. \*

Ped. \*

small hands

Ped. \*

Ped. \*

Ped. \*

small hands

Ped. \*

Copyright, 1922, by Percy Grainger  
International Copyright secured

Printed in the U. S. A.



1 2 1 2 1

Ped. \*

5 3 2 4

Ped. \*

detached, top voice to the fore  
mp  
p  
Ped. \*

small hands  
p  
mp  
these chords)  
L.H. to the fore  
Ped. \*



small hands

*p* *mp*

Ped. \*

*mp* *f*

Ped. \*

*f*

Ped. \*

small hands

etc. *Top voice much to the fore detached*

*mf* *ff* *f* *short and sharp*

Ped. \*



*Bass hugely to the fore*

small hands

*The accents very heavy*

small hands



8

*smoothly*

*pp*

*ped.*

8

*(keep it pp)*

*ped.*

8

*ped.*

8

*(don't louden)*

*Fingers,*

*ff*

*suddenly*

*ped.* *ped.* *ped.* *ped.* \*

*small hands*

*suddenly*

*ff*

*ped.* \*



The image shows a musical score for a piece titled "The Little Red Hut". The score is written for two systems of instruments. The first system consists of a grand staff (treble and bass clefs) and a single line of music below it. The second system consists of a single line of music and a grand staff (treble and bass clefs). The music is in 3/4 time, as indicated by the "3" and "4" in the top right corner. The tempo is marked "Allegretto". The key signature has one sharp (F#). The first system is marked "stiff, as before". The second system is marked "small hands". The music features a melody in the treble clef and a bass line in the bass clef. The melody is composed of eighth and sixteenth notes, with some rests. The bass line is composed of eighth and sixteenth notes, with some rests. The single line of music below the first system consists of a series of notes, some of which are marked with a "Red." and a "\*" symbol. The single line of music above the second system also consists of a series of notes, some of which are marked with a "Red." and a "\*" symbol. The notes are written in a stylized, handwritten font. The paper is aged and yellowed.

30916



*The accents as rough and heavy as possible*

Ped. \* Ped. \* Ped. \* Ped. \*

*accents as before*

Ped. \* Ped. \* Ped. \* Ped. \*

*p*  
*(no pedal)*  
*(small hands may break these)*

*detached*

*louden hugely*

*chords)*

*Much slower*  
*(♩ = about 100)*  
*Top voice fff*  
*fist*  
*slacken*  
*in time (1st speed)*

*ff* *ff* *fff*

Ped. \* Ped. \* Ped. \* Ped. \*

*fff*



# IN A NUTSHELL

## Suite for Pianoforte

(originally composed for Piano and Orchestra)

by PERCY GRAINGER

### SUITE: "IN A NUTSHELL"

#### № 1. ARRIVAL PLATFORM HUMLET

Awaiting arrival of belated train bringing one sweetheart from foreign parts; great fun! The sort of thing one hums to oneself as an accompaniment to one's tramping feet as one happily excitedly paces up and down the arrival platform.

for piano

by

PERCY ALDRIDGE GRAINGER

WITH HEALTHY AND SOMEWHAT FIERCE "GO" *♩* about 120

Piano

The score is written for piano in 2/4 time. It begins with a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp (F#). The tempo is marked 'WITH HEALTHY AND SOMEWHAT FIERCE "GO" ♩ about 120'. The music is characterized by a rhythmic, tramping quality with many eighth and sixteenth notes. There are several dynamic markings including *mp* (mezzo-piano) and *sf* (sforzando). The piece ends with a final chord and a repeat sign.

Copyright, 1916, by Percy Grainger  
International Copyright Secured

### SUITE: "IN A NUTSHELL"

#### № 2. "GAY BUT WISTFUL"

Tune in a popular London Style

For my dear friend Edward J. de Capet

for piano

by

PERCY ALDRIDGE GRAINGER

N.B. All big stretches can be harped (played *arpeggio*) at will

Gracefully flowing *M.M.* *♩* about 100  
Top notes to the fore

Piano

The score is written for piano in 2/4 time. It begins with a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp (F#). The tempo is marked 'Gracefully flowing M.M. ♩ about 100'. The music is characterized by a wistful, flowing quality with many eighth and sixteenth notes. There are several dynamic markings including *wrenched f* (wrenched fortissimo) and *mp* (mezzo-piano). The piece ends with a final chord and a repeat sign.

Copyright, 1916, by Percy Grainger  
International Copyright Secured

### SUITE: "IN A NUTSHELL"

#### № 3. "PASTORAL"

For my dear comrade in art and thought Cyril Scott

for piano

by

PERCY ALDRIDGE GRAINGER

N.B. All big stretches can be harped (played *arpeggio*) at will

Restful and dreamy, but wayward in time. Begin *♩* about 64

Piano

The score is written for piano in 2/4 time. It begins with a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp (F#). The tempo is marked 'Restful and dreamy, but wayward in time. Begin ♩ about 64'. The music is characterized by a restful, dreamy quality with many eighth and sixteenth notes. There are several dynamic markings including *ppp* (pianissimo) and *pp* (piano). The piece ends with a final chord and a repeat sign.

Copyright, 1916, by Percy Grainger  
International Copyright Secured

### SUITE: "IN A NUTSHELL"

#### № 4. "THE GUM-SUCKERS" MARCH

For Henry and Abbie Finch, with love

for piano

by

PERCY ALDRIDGE GRAINGER

N.B. All big stretches can be harped (played *arpeggio*) at will

Fast *M.M.* *♩* between 110 and 120

Piano

The score is written for piano in 2/4 time. It begins with a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp (F#). The tempo is marked 'Fast M.M. ♩ between 110 and 120'. The music is characterized by a fast, march-like quality with many eighth and sixteenth notes. There are several dynamic markings including *mf* (mezzo-forte) and *mp* (mezzo-piano). The piece ends with a final chord and a repeat sign.

Copyright, 1916, by Percy Grainger  
International Copyright Secured